

# Woodstock Agricultural Commission

Regular Meeting, Town Hall, 1 pm, Monday, March 21, 2022

**Members Present:** Linda Auger, Emilie Hebert, Rebecca Hyde, Paul Miller, Stewart Morse, Richard Norman

**Absent:** Doug Young, Jon Hermonot

**Public Present:** Eleanore Provencal, Grace Jacobsen, Karen Swanberg, Megan Hebert

**1. Call to order** Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm

**2. Seat alternates** Linda Auger was seated

**3. Review of minutes** February 2022 were approved with one exception: Amy Monahan was not present.

**4. Public participation**

**6. Old business**

**a. WOSLAPC report** April 2 there will be a walk through of the property which is under review for transfer to the Windham Land Trust. Discussions continue.

**b. P&Z report** Still tied up with affordable housing issues.

**c. Other**

**7. New business**

**a. Other Windham County Towns Ag Commissions** Stafford Springs has a meeting on the 13th of April, Stewart plans to attend.

**b. Upcoming Program** Nothing to report.

**c. Affordable Housing** This is tied to the issue of housing for agricultural workers. If a farmer were to supply apartments to supplement employees' compensation, could there be special rules for this. Perhaps in tandem with affordable housing units. If there was a certain amount of land required per unit, one could designate a section to be carved out if the units dropped out of ag use.

**d. Ag Zoning Ideas** Central issue is whether ag-tivities are to be permitted and regulated or restricted, and how.

**e. State of CT Ag Report** Friday is ag day at the Armoury. The Farm Bureau has been working on having agricultural vehicles exempted from the truck tax. The only exemption right now is milk trucks when loaded with milk. They're also working on the erosion of the farm sales tax exemption. There's also new legislation to address rabbit processing to make it easier for farms to market rabbit meat. Kurt Vail is the current representative for what will be the new district in Woodstock.

**f. Woodstock land map review** Map 5132. South side of Woodstock Rd, West of Paine District, south side of Hibbard, down to development around Dugg Hill/Paine District/Roseland Park corner. Includes May Farm, Rogers Corp, Brunarhans, Peckham's land, houses

along south side of Woodstock Rd, and 167.9 acres of land acquired in 2021 from Neumanns by Supreme Farms, which is owned by Giorgio Petruzzello of Supreme Companies in Dedham, MA. See [supremecompanies.com](http://supremecompanies.com).

**g. Other**

**7. Announcements**

**8. Adjourn** The meeting adjourned at 2:20.

Rebecca Hyde, Secretary

(These minutes are subject to approval at the next meeting of the full Commission.)